

REBERT A. GRANT,
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R. W. THOMAS, EDITOR.
CLARKSVILLE, TENN.:
FRIDAY, JULY 13, 1866.

THE NATIONAL CONVENTION AGAIN.

Since our last issue, several Southern States have taken steps towards representation in the Philadelphia Convention. Upon a careful review of the subject, nothing presents itself to change our first impression, that the South ought to have nothing to do with it. To the Convention, itself, we make no objection—on the contrary, we approve it as calculated to do much good, if properly directed, and we sincerely hope that all the Conservatives of the North will cordially cooperate with the movement. Without a voice in the national council, the South can do nothing to further the objects of the Convention, and while waiting to have the fetters stricken from our limbs, a dignified silence is more becoming than an interference which evokes of over-anxiety for political favor rather than political justice. We are "unconscious leaders," a suppliant attitude would be both proper and becoming; but feeling that we were right, and that they are the leaders who, in defiance of the Constitution and the rights of the States, waged war against the South, self-respect should prompt us to wait, in silence, the will of the conqueror.

But, leaving out of sight every feeling and consideration connected with and growing out of the wrongs and insults we have endured, sound policy suggests the importance of a strict neutrality, on the part of the South, between Northern parties. The moment we take sides, divisions will spring up in our ranks, and the weakness which must follow, will again place us at the mercy of intriguing politicians and an irresponsible Northern rabble. By the opposite policy, we reserve our whole strength—hold the balance of power and secure to ourselves an influence of incalculable value to our future prosperity. We are under no obligations to any portion of the Northern people, save the few who opposed the war and endeavored, while it was progressing, to gather up and save the tattered fragments of the Constitution. The war was fought and fought well; the Yankees robbed, without fighting us, and the hired mercenaries fought us for monthly wages and a permit to steal. No party, made up of such materials, can have any claim upon Southern confidence or co-operation, and from such a combination, the South has nothing to hope for, beyond what may be extorted from mercenary calculations and the intrigues of politicians for party supremacy. Feeling, then, that love for the South is not the motive power with any party, North, prudence suggests that we ally ourselves with none, but acting from considerations of interest alone, hold ourselves united and prepared to throw our influence into whichever scale preponderates in our favor. Party affinities, as between North and South, have no existence—may never have again, and henceforth the wronged and insulted South, whilst discharging its whole duty to a centralized Confederacy, must look to its interests—hoard the wealth it produces and husband the strength which it no longer wasted in building up a people who have maliciously wasted its fields and desecrated its homes.

As already said, we hope the Convention will be a signal success, and result in the enfranchisement of the South; but until enfranchised, we will be glad to see it stand aloof from all political movements at the North. To hang around such speculators, like poor men at a feast, is a spectacle too degrading to suit our taste.

DEATH OF W. K. PORTER.—Our readers will receive, with feelings of deep regret, the tidings of the death of Mr. W. K. Porter. Born and raised in our midst, this community can bear witness to his high moral worth, as well as to the ability and zeal which marked his professional career, and made him a most useful citizen and effective public servant. We feel sympathies with his afflicted family, and truly sympathize in the death of such a man, the State has sustained a heavy loss.

JIM LANE.—The latest accounts report the probable recovery of Senator Lane from his self-inflicted wound. As a supporter of the Confederacy, we should regret to see his seat made vacant, just now, not knowing who might succeed him. If he recovers, we would advise him to read some of the obituary notices that have appeared in the papers. A knowledge of the character he was about to leave behind him, may have a most salutary effect upon the remnant of a life hereafter marked by deeds of violence, and by sentiments not closely allied to manly honor. In coming to be a Radical, he has taken one long stride towards reformation—let him persevere in the good work, and the temptations to suicide will be removed.

STOLEN.—We learn from the Nashville papers, that the post-office boxes of Davidson and other counties have disappeared. When it is remembered that, under the exceptions in the Fugitive bill, there were registered voters enough in the State, to send the Radicals after "Ward's ducks," no one will be at a loss to know what has become of those boxes. It is an infamous theft, and an outrage upon the rights of the people that call loudly for redress.

A SENSITIVE ISSUE.—We publish, on 1st page, an article from the Richmond Whig, in reference to the sale of Southern lands to Northern Radicals. We fully endorse the spirit of the article, and the recommendation to land-holders to look closely into the character of every Northern bidder for lands. New England would gladly engrave upon Southern soil the deluging "lood" which have made her odious to all good

THE HON. J. W. LUTWICK.

This gentleman, a Congressman elect from the Eighth District, has addressed a letter to the Legislature in opposition to the proposed amendment. It is a dignified and sensible appeal to extirpate prejudice and belated intellect, and though it does honor to the head and heart of the writer, can do no good to the cause of political truth, so far as it depends upon the action of the Radical members of the Legislature. If Thad. Stevens were to tell them to expunge the Ten Commandments from the Bible, on the ground that they conflict with Radical views and designs, they would not hesitate to obey the order, although most of them are ignorant of the existence of such Commandments, and all live in open violation of them.

But, the address, to which we refer, comes from a Conservative, will not, we trust, be without influence outside of the circle of office-holders. There are Union men, throughout the State, who can have no interest in upholding the tyrants at Nashville, and in prolonging the struggle between Constitutional liberty and lawless despotism. Such men may be reached by facts and arguments, and when convinced that Radicalism means slavery for the whites and enfranchisement of the blacks, they have honesty enough to repudiate the party and its doctrines, and to unite with Mr. Lutwick in his efforts to lift our State from its degradation and restore its citizens to their former proud position of freemen. Equality with negroes is the true doctrine for those who advocate it, because they can never rise above that level. But let them go out of the State to enjoy it.—Gentlemen will never tolerate it, whether it be ordered by Federal or State authority, and if the Radicals of Tennessee are determined to place themselves on a footing with negroes, public sentiment will adjust their social position by the standard they have erected, and hold them to it.

WORKING RIGHT.—The argument, in Congress, upon the tariff bill, is disclosing the interesting fact, that the North-West is beginning to see and feel the injurious effects of New England protection upon the agricultural interests of the West. The more plain-ly the fact appears, the more sensitive the favored Yankees become. They tremble, lest the infamous favoritism which is filling their pockets with the hard earnings of honest labor, may be withdrawn. The people are beginning to inquire wherein lies the justice of fleeing them through the operations of a high tariff, for the benefit of Yankee manufacturers, and of shearing them still closer by making them pay the tax that ought to be derived from Government bonds, in the hands of shoddy aristocrats, of the amount of three thousand millions of dollars.

THE NORTH IS PAINTFULLY REALIZING THE FACT, that peace has its fires as well as war. From all portions, comes the cry of fire, day after day, and the consuming element seems bent upon extending its ravages wherever there is material upon which to feed. Portland, Maine, is in ashes, and the lowest estimate of the loss is ten millions of dollars—and two thousand families are homeless. The South has had its experience in the same line—with this difference, however, that the North is in doubt as to the origin of its ills, whilst the South can put its finger on the shoulders of the hired incendiaries who applied the torch to its towns.

DEAD LOCK.—Up to the time of going to press, the information from Nashville is, that there is no quorum in the Lower House of the Legislature. The Senate is at work, unconstitutionally, which is of little importance, since the whole body is rendered unconstitutional by the exclusion of members justly entitled to seats, even supposing it to have been constitutional in the beginning.

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PUBLIC MEETING.

In response to a resolution adopted at a public meeting of the citizens of Montgomery county, held at the Court House, in Clarksville, on Monday, July 24, 1866, a meeting was organized on Monday, July 24, for the purpose of taking action upon the call for a National Union Convention, to be held at Philadelphia, August 14, 1866.

On motion, D. W. Nye, Esq. was called to the Chair, and John M. Peffer appointed Secretary. On motion of W. A. Peffer, the meeting adjourned, without taking any action, to meet on the last Saturday of the present month, in obedience to the request of the Executive Committee, at Nashville, for the purpose of electing delegates to the District Convention.

D. W. NYE, Chairman.
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THE HON. J. W. LUTWICK.

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We learn with pleasure that the remains of Colonel William A. Forbes, who commanded the Fourteenth Tennessee during the late war, and who was killed at the second battle of Tennessee, will be removed during the coming week to their present resting place (the battle-field) to Richmond, to be deposited beside the dust of his kindred in the sacred precincts of the family burying-ground. Colonel Forbes was a native of Richmond, where his name is familiar, and where there are many who know him and loved him in youth and early manhood. He was a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, and reflected much credit upon his Alma Mater by his superior scholarship at the time of his graduation, and yet more by his subsequent attainments, which were the fruits of persevering effort and a noble ambition. His early manhood was spent in Virginia, though when quite young he removed to Tennessee, where he married, and for many years filled important and responsible positions in several of the principal colleges in that State.

Impetuous, generous, noble, he accepted the place which duty assigned him in the fearful struggle, and in command of the Fourteenth Tennessee, whose plain rest on every battle-field of Virginia, his stout, conspicuous in battle's fierce fight till mortally stricken upon the plains of the "Second Manassas."

The writer knew him well, and was warmly attached to him by the ties of early association and friendship—knew him in youth and in manhood, in peace and in war, and ever esteemed him among the noblest of the sons of Virginia.

His afflicted widow, with her orphan boy, are in Richmond, on their way to the battle-field, to secure his remains, that they may be forwarded to Richmond, and deposited where the tender hand of affection may plant a flower, and where the loving of the beloved may, in the early morning, in the cool of the evening, walk about his last home and revive the memory of his love and virtues.—Richmond Whig July 6th.

DEATH OF W. K. PORTER.—The Memphis Appeal of the 8th instant contains the painful announcement of the death of Wm. K. Porter, one of the truest, best men in the State. The Appeal says:

In the death of Wm. K. Porter, at seven o'clock last evening, Memphis suffered an irreparable loss, the full extent of which will be more appreciated as our people are made acquainted with the life and character of the deceased. He was a man of high principle and authority, the integrity of his conduct, and the many active qualities that marked his unblemished life in all those varied relations and offices in which he was wont to look up to and guide the public mind. He was a man of high principle and authority, the integrity of his conduct, and the many active qualities that marked his unblemished life in all those varied relations and offices in which he was wont to look up to and guide the public mind.

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Only the actions of the just
Sweet and blossom in the dust.

In view of the high and unjust tariff now pending in Congress, the Cincinnati Commercial says:

The sentiment of the people of the North-west, taken on the tariff question, unambiguously expressed by other means, would be found overwhelming by any further toleration of the systematic extortion which is highly developed as a great principle in New England and Pennsylvania; and already the disunion is so great that we doubt not it will result in returning to the next Congress a number of Copperheads who, whatever else they may do, will oppose a tariff system so adjusted as to pour into one man's pocket the fruit of the labor of a thousand hands.

THE UNCONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE INCOME TAX.—A case is being prepared by a citizen of Springfield, Ill., to test, before the United States Supreme Court, the constitutionality of the income tax. The case is being prepared by a citizen of Springfield, Ill., to test, before the United States Supreme Court, the constitutionality of the income tax.

ANNEXATION.—A bill has been introduced into Congress, proposing the annexation of the British Provinces to the United States. As the consent of the inhabitants and of the British Government are essential to the perfection of the scheme, the probability of success is very remote. This, we presume, is of little consequence to the Radical schemers, since it is likely that they have set the proposition on foot with the forlorn hope that it may aid them in the approaching election.

THANKS.—We are under obligations to Senators Doolittle and Cowan for able comments bearing upon the political crisis. With such men, earnestly at work in the cause of righting the wrongs of the country, the National Union Convention promises to be of incalculable value, and we hope all the Conservatives of the North will give an active support to the movement—as will the South when allowed to act.

SAVED THEM RIGHT.—The hundreds of accidents that happened on the 4th, North and South, is a plain hint that both sections were wrong in celebrating that day.

THE LENGTH OF JUDGE PIERCE'S speech necessarily excluded it from our inside column this week, but we will endeavor to find room for it on the first page of our next issue. We commend it, in advance, to the attention of